

From: DMS HRC MILITARY AWARDS BR(uc)
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To: 'ALARACT RELEASE AUTHORITY(uc)'
To Precedence: Routine
Cc: 'CFC-A CJ2X KABUL AF'; 'CFLCC INTEL CAMP ARIEFJAN KU'; 'DA ARMY STAFF(uc)'; 'MNF-I C2X BAGHDAD IZ'
Cc Precedence: Routine
Subject: Delegation of Wartime Approval Authority - Coalition Forces Special Operations Component Command (CFSOCC) - CHANGE 1
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A. AR 600-8-22, Military Awards, 25 Feb 95.

B. DoD 1348.33-M, Manual of Military Decorations and Awards, Sep 96.

C. HQDA Letter 600-05-1, 3 Jun 05, Subj: Changes to the Combat Infantryman Badge and the Combat Medical Badge and the Establishment of the Combat Action Badge.

D. HQ, USA HRC Message, dated 17 Mar 04, Subj: Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal-Implementing Instructions.

E. HQ, PERSCOM Message, dated 091135Z, Jul 02, Subj: Clarification of Purple Heart Criteria-Corrected Copy.

F. DMS Message, dated 23 Sep 05, Subj: Wartime Awards to Members of Other U. S. Armed Forces.

G. DMS Message, dated 25 May 05, Subj: Afghanistan Campaign Medal and Iraq Campaign Medal-Implementing Instructions.

H. DMS Message, dated 8 Jun 05, Subj: Purple Heart (PH) Revocation Authority.

1. Effective 21 Mar 05, the Commanding General (CG), Coalition Forces Special Operations Component Command (CFSOCC) is delegated authority to award the Bronze Star Medal (BSM) and all lesser decorations to U.S. Military personnel under his command. The CG, CFSOCC is also delegated authority to award the Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB), Combat Medical Badge (CMB), Combat Action Badge (CAB), and Purple Heart (PH); with further delegation as defined below.

2. The authority to award Army decorations to members of the Armed Forces of friendly foreign nations is authorized for award to Colonel (COL), or equivalent, and below only, after appropriate clearances are received from respective Embassies and the provisions of DoD 1348.33-M, are met. This authority will not be further delegated. All recommendations higher than the CG, CFSOCC's delegation will be forwarded, with appropriate concurrences, to USA, HRC for processing.

3. The CG, CFSOCC may delegate to Army commanders in the ranks of COL and above the authority to award the Army Commendation Medal to U.S. Army Soldiers under their command.
4. The CG, CFSOCC is also authorized to delegate disapproval authority to subordinate commanders, provided those subordinate commanders have approval authority for the next lower award.
5. Commanders in the rank of Brigadier General and above who have troops committed to the combat operation may be delegated authority to award the PH to U.S. Army Soldiers who are wounded as the direct result of enemy action. The PH may also be awarded to service members wounded or killed in action by friendly fire (paragraph 5 of ref E). In accordance with Title 10, USC, Section 1131 the PH may only be awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States. The PH is no longer awarded to U.S. civilians. Requests for award of the PH that cannot be determined will be forwarded through the CG, CFSOCC to USA, HRC (AHRC-PDO-PA) for decision.
6. Those Commanders delegated PH approval authority are no longer authorized to revoke PH's. As outlined in ref H, all requests for revocation of an approved PH will be staffed through the chain of command to USA HRC, ATTN: AHRC-PDO-PA, 200 Stovall St, Alexandria, VA 22332 for processing.
7. Recommendations for award of the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Soldier's Medal, and all unit award recommendations will be forwarded through CG, CFSOCC to USA, HRC (AHRC-PDO-PA) for further processing.
8. In accordance with ref F, wartime awards will not be awarded to a member of another Service without first seeking concurrence from the Service concerned.
9. In accordance with ref C, authority to award the CIB, CMB and CAB may not be further delegated. The CIB may be awarded only to Infantry and Special Forces officers and enlisted Soldiers who satisfactorily perform Infantry or Special Forces duties in active ground combat. The CMB may be awarded to medical personnel (not to include Special Forces medics and members assigned or attached to Aviation units) who satisfactorily perform medical duties while the ground combat unit is engaged in active ground combat, provided they are personally present and under fire. The CAB may be awarded to any Soldier (not to include Soldiers assigned/attached to a unit that would qualify the Soldier for the CIB/CMB) that is actively engaging or being engaged by the enemy. When contemplating eligibility for the CAB, approval authorities must take in consideration the proximity of the Soldier to the impacted area and whether the Soldier could have been reasonably injured by the blast, detonation or explosion. Battle or campaign participation credit alone will not be the basis for award of the CIB, CMB nor the CAB.
10. Award of the CIB, CMB and CAB for Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) fall under the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) era. Therefore, subsequent awards of the CIB, CMB, and CAB are not authorized for participation in OEF and OIF. For example, a Soldier who earned the CIB for OEF will not be awarded a second CIB for OIF.
11. To preserve the integrity of the Army awards program and to ensure meaningful recognition for truly deserving Soldiers, special care should be exercised so that military decorations for meritorious and valorous achievement or service are only approved for those Soldiers who truly distinguish themselves from among their comrades by exceptional performance in combat or in support of combat operations.

12. Awards presented in recognition of service for valor and achievement must be accurately recorded to ensure data is captured for historical and policy evaluation purposes. The number of decorations awarded will be included in a monthly report indicating awards presented by category (valor, service, or achievement) and by component (Active, Reserve, and National Guard). Also a by-name alphabetical listing of all valor awards should be incorporated. Reports must be forwarded to the Military Awards Branch (awards@hoffman.army.mil) in a timely manner. A report is required to be submitted monthly NLT the 15th of the following month.

13. The authority to award wartime awards will be reviewed regularly as the tactical situation dictates and automatically terminates 180 days after completion of combat operations. At that time, CFSOCC will have 90 days to complete any pending award recommendations. All awards not processed within the 90 day completion period, will be forwarded directly to USA, HRC (AHRC-PDO-PA) for processing.

14. A follow-on message will provide additional instructions on authorized campaign participation credit and campaign streamers. However, it is advised that CFSOCC maintain deployment orders and/or records of all units deployed in to the theater of operations (11 Sep 01 to a date to be determined) in order to submit required documentation for campaign participation credit.

15. Requests for Assault Landing Credit, Combat Infantry Streamers, and Combat Medical Streamers must be processed in accordance with ref A.

16. Implementing instructions for the campaign medals can be found in ref D and G.

17. For clarification of guidance provided, contact the Military Awards Branch at awards@hoffman.army.mil or visit the website at <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/TAGD/awards/index.htm>.